Council Actions in Relation to City Scrip What is scrip?
Why would Chicago need to use scrip?
What was the economy like in the United States in 1837?

How much scrip was issued in Chicago?

Suggestions from Fire Warden Concerning Stovepipes and Chimneys What was used to create heat in 1841?

Letter from Martin Van Buren Who was Martin Van Buren?

Why would Martin Van Buren not know when he would arrive in Chicago?

Communication from the City Council of Galena Relating to a Railroad Find Galena, Illinois on the map.

Why were Galena and Chicago important to each other?

How did a railroad between the two cities help farmers in northwestern Illinois?

Communication from the Mayor of Buffalo

Why would the people of Buffalo, New York, want to be friendly with the people of Chicago?

How could a person travel between Buffalo and Chicago in 1843?

How could goods be transported between Buffalo and Chicago in 1843?

Report Relating to a Night Watch and Watch House

Why did Samuel Grier think a night watch and watch house were necessary?

Petition Relating to Geese Running at Large

What problems would animals such as geese and pigs running through the streets create?

Resolution Concerning a Flag for the Chicago Invincibles Who were the Chicago Invincibles?

Why would they deserve a flag?

Petition for Appointment as City Scavenger

What was the city scavenger's job?

Why was the system of garbage disposal used in April 1847 a problem?

How did John Ludby suggest picking up the garbage from citizens?

Ordinance to Prevent Filth from Entering the Water Supply

What did the Chicago Hydraulic Company do?

Why would washing animals and carriages near the water supply be a problem?

What differences might there be between drinking water in 1848 and today?

Communication Regarding the Chicago Harbor

What is a sand scrow, and what was used for?

Why might sand bars build up in the Chicago Harbor? Why would this be a problem?

Physician's Cholera Report

What were the living and working conditions of the patient?

What treatment was the patient given? Do you think it could have been an effective treatment?

Petition for Frederick Douglass's Use of City Hall

Who was Frederick Douglass?

What was his lecture about?

How did the citizens of Chicago feel about abolition and slavery?

Resolution Regarding the Fugitive Slave Act

What was the fugitive slave act, and why did many people not like it?

What other laws were related to it?

What did this resolution say about the enforcement of the fugitive slave act?

Identify the "slave" states on a map and then find Chicago. How could a slave have reached Chicago?

Petition for a License to Exhibit a Panorama of the Overland Route to California

How could a person get to California from Chicago in 1851?

What would a traveler on the overland route to California have experienced?

Petition Relating to the Arrest of a Fugitive Slave

Why was the "certain noisy, unruly person" arrested and the fugitive slave not?

Why was William Taylor fined?

Census Report

Why would the census have been divided into the categories listed?

What is different about the census today?

Were there more American born or foreign born people living in Chicago?

How many people owned a home?

How many people lived in Chicago in 1852 compared with today?

Tax Statistics

What part of the city (North, South, or West) was the wealthiest in 1853? The poorest?

What types of taxes were collected according to this chart?

Petition of E. Mieling for Relief Due to Damages Incurred by his Wife

What happened to Mieling's wife?

What was it the city's responsibility to do?

Invitation of the Illinois Central Railroad Company

Locate Chicago and Cairo, Illinois on the map.

Why was completion of a railroad between Chicago and Cairo important to the growth of Illinois?

What part of the Illinois government created laws to help the railroad be built?

Communication Concerning Issuance of Bonds

What were some of the new buildings built in Chicago in 1855? Why were they needed? How did Mayor Boone propose for paying for these buildings?

Petition for the Free Use of the State Street Market Hall Who was William Anderson? What was his lecture about? What did he intend to use the proceeds of the lecture for? Why did Anderson think he would be granted this request?

Petition of Moriss Bauland for Remission of a Fine Why was Moriss Bauland fined? Why was selling meat on Sundays against the law? What problems would be created if no one sold meat on Sundays as the law required?

Ordinance Appropriating Funds to the Sanitary Commission What was the U.S. Sanitary Commission? What did they use the War Fund for?

Communication from the Mayor Concerning the Flow of the Chicago River What was the original agreement between Mr. Preston and Mayor Sherman? How did Mr. Preston change this agreement? What "deposits" would the city have clean out of the canal?

Order of the Committee on Schools Providing for Segregation Chicago citizens were primarily anti-slavery. Why would they want their schools segregated?

Proclamation Regarding Day of Thanksgiving
The battle at Gettysburg happened only a month before President Lincoln declared this
Day of Thanksgiving. Why did Lincoln think it was needed?
What did this proclamation state citizens should do on the Day of Thanksgiving?

Communication Concerning Confederate Dead What was Camp Douglas used for during the Civil War? Why was it a problem that Camp Douglas was located near the growing city of Chicago? What did this committee want the Brevet Brigadier General to do?

Invitation to a Southern Commercial Convention What was the purpose of this convention? What problems were southern states experiencing in 1869?

Request for the Sale of Brick and Iron from Burned Public Buildings What happened on October 8th 1871 in Chicago and how much damage was caused? Why did the Board of Public Works want to sell the brick and iron?